



TTW 17444
\$

Docket No. ASP-21

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Platt et al. Confirmation No.: 9441
Appln. No. : 09/812,148 Art Unit : 1744
Filed : March 19, 2001 Examiner : K.M. Jastrzab
Title : STERILIZATION SYSTEM EMPLOYING A SWITCHING MODULE
ADAPTED TO PULSATE THE LOW FREQUENCY POWER APPLIED
TO A PLASMA

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the
United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed
to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

Aug. 9, 2004

(Date of Deposit)

Andrew C. Farmer
(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

(Signature)

8-9-04

(Date of Signature)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action of April 9, 2004, please amend the above-identified
application as follows:

06/26/2004 MAILING 00000003 100720 09612148
01 F01251 110.00 DA

TTW

information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist.

In accordance with §1.97(b), since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed either within three months of the filing date of the above-identified national application (other than a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d)), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of the above identified application as set forth in §1.491, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, no additional fee is required.

In accordance with §1.129(a), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in connection with the first or second After Final Submission, therefore:

- Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e)
(attached); or
- Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-0750/ / the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p).

In accordance with §1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period set forth in §1.97(b) above but before the mailing date of either a Final Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution and that it is accompanied by one of:

- Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e)
(attached); or

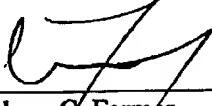
REMARKS

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed April 9, 2004. Presently, claims 1 to 30 are pending in the application. All of the claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 for double patenting.

The Examiner has rejected each of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §101 for double patenting over claims 1 to 21 of U.S. Patent No. 6,447,719 B1. A terminal disclaimer is submitted herewith thereby mooting the rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and early notice of allowance of the application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Andrew O. Farmer
Reg. No. 35,868
Attorney for Applicants

Johnson & Johnson
One Johnson & Johnson Plaza
New Brunswick, NJ 08933-7003
(732) 524-2825
Dated: 8-9-04